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GW-42 CB/File No. 12-41
S. No: 157

P-3

Reports Received from the Mysore District regarding the political activities (District Magistrate Judgement in the case of Mr. Ranga Iyengar) from April 42 to the End of April 1942.

App. F. IX-4

Previous References. (1941-42 CS.) CS File No. 12-41 Serial Nos. 150

Later References.

PRESERVED

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 150

Part B for

SUBJECT.

Reports - received from the Mysore Dist- re political activities (contg Dist Magts Judgments in the Case against S. Ramaswamiah

(from April 42 to end of April 42)

May be retained.

AB 17/11/54

SECRET.

S.B.124/41-42.

CS 12-41-150 3165/CO.

DEWAN'S OFFICE
2 APR 1942

SPECIAL REPORT.

APR 7 1949

(In continuation of this office S.B.124/41-42 dated 30-3-42).

Submitted to the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District, Mysore.

C.C.No.441/41-42. Govt. Vs. Mr.S.Rangaramiah, D.Subbiah Road, Mysore. Rule 38(1)(a) & (5) read with Rule 34(6)(e) & (k) of the Defence of India Rules as applied to Mysore. (on the file of the City Magistrate, Mysore).	The Magistrate pronounced judgment this day convicting the accused under Rule 34(6) (e) and (k) read with Rule 38(1)(a) and (5) of the Defence of India Rules and sentencing him on each of the two counts to suffer one month R.I. and to pay a fine of Rs.200/- or in default to suffer 2 months R.I. (The sentences will run consecutively

Sd.A.Rangaswami Iyengar,

MYSORE,
31-3-42

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
MYSORE DISTRICT.

"Copy"

A-Rangaswami Iyengar

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
MYSORE DISTRICT.

No. T.C.24/41-42

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Mysore District,
Dated, Mysore, 31st March 1942.

MEMO.

Forwarded, with compliments, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore, Bangalore.

K Subbarao

Deputy Commissioner,
Mysore District.

Sallie for perusal

Law Secy & Draftsman

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3275
CB

S.B.No. 188/41·42

Proceedings of the meeting held under the auspices of the All-India Mysore District Congress Committee in connection with the observance of "The National Week" in the Subbarayanakere Maidan, Mysore, on Monday the 6th April 1942 at 7-15 P.M. About 50 persons consisting of people of the locality and children attended the meeting. Mr.P.Seetharamiah, Advocate and Vice-President, City Municipality, Mysore, presided. The speeches were in Kannada.

OFFICE OF THE
M...TER... LAW
ADD 9 1942
No. 10125

After the shouting of several Jais, Mr.B.Narayanaswami, Pleader and Secretary, All-India Mysore District Congress Committee, Mysore, spoke thus.-

This day, we have arranged for the observance of the "National Week" under the auspices of the All-India Mysore District Congress Committee. The object is known to you through the hand-bills. In the present circumstances, there is much significance for the "National Week". The speakers will tell you regarding the significance of the "National Week", the civil defence measures and other matters. On your benalf and on behalf of the Congress, I request Mr.P.Seetharamiah, Vice-President of the Mysore City Municipality to preside over this meeting. Messrs. T.S.Rajagopala Iyengar, Subbarao Upadhyaya, M.N.Jois and Suryanarayana Rao will speak to you. (Claps).

Mr. P.Seetharamiah, Advocate and Vice-President of the Mysore City Municipality, Mysore, next spoke thus.-

The Secretary has already placed before you the object of holding this meeting and the names of the speakers who will speak to you. Many people have not come here. I think this poor audience is due to beginning of the "National Week". Since this is the first day, many people have not come.First Mr. T.S.Rajagopala Iyengar will speak. Then others will speak. I will speak in the end.

Mr. T.S.Rajagopala Iyengar, Advocate, Mysore, next spoke thus.-

The "National Week" is being observed this day ~~in~~ all over India. This is not the first time that it is being observed. We are observing it since many years. Mostly the observance of "National Week" is commenced from the 6th April of every year. You know that we are observing this

this week since many years. Meetings are held every day for a week. Every day some subject will be selected and speeches will be delivered upon the same, such as Harijan Uplift, Khadi propaganda, Hindu-Muslim Unity &c. To gain the independence of India, unification of India is absolutely necessary. For the unification of India, this kind of meetings are necessary. But I cannot say the reason for this small gathering. All of us must forget our differences and try to unite and thus achieve the independence of India. Then you may ask me as to why we must get independence. I may tell you that when we are independent we can banish poverty, illiteracy and many other evils. Then we may become happy. Thus it is the aim of the Congress to make India independent like other countries. Regarding the present politics, I will tell you a few words. The Great War has encircled the world. The Congresss has stopped Sathyagraha. We hate the Germans, the Japanese and the Italians. We will completely help the Allies and Britain if we are made independent and if the Atlantic Charter is made applicable to India. You may know what is meant by the Atlantic Charter. The Americans and th English have issued the Atlantic Charter, according to which they have guaranteed the freedom of the independent countries and also guaranteed to establish freedom in those countries which have lost it in this war. If we are given independenc we will fight with our enemies better and drive them away. In this connection the Congress passed a resolution at Bardoli and Wardah. This may be known to you. Mahatmaji and some leaders said that they cannot leave Ahimsa at any time, since it is the foundation of the Congress. Some other - leaders said that Ahimsa can be applied in internal politics and not in foreign politics, when the country's independence is threatened. For the present the latter have become victorious. But Mahatmaji has said that he cannot leave away Ahimsa even if the worst should happen. The Working Committe have passed a resolution that if they are given independence, tney will drive away the enemies. In Mysore also, we do -

do not want to agitate for the establishment of Responsible - Government under the aegis of His Highness during the war. Our first work is the way in which we have to help the public at this critical time. In short, our attention is diverted towards Civil Defence measures. Every day the newspaper brings us fresh information. In the recent newspapers, we are given to understand that there was a severe Air Raid on Colombo. We must awake since war has come so near to us. The English also want to settle the present deadlock and hence Sir Stafford Cripps has been sent. There is much significance in sending him. He belongs to the Labour Party. Especially he is one of its leftists. After the war broke out, he was sent to Russia as the ambassodor of Great Britain and he was successful in his work in Russia. He was sent to Russia, since Russia is a country of labourers administered by the labourers. Now he has been sent to India with a view to settle the present deadlock. He is a friend of India. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and others of the Congress are his friends. Knowing that if he is sent to India he will surely bring about a compromise, he is sent by Mr. - Churchill. He has come here with some proposals. The text of the proposals is known to you. What he has brought is known as the Draft Declaration. If we approve of this the same will be passed by the British Parliament. There are many matters in the Cripps proposals. I need not tell you everything. You might have read it in newspapers. After the war an Indian Union will be given. It will have complete autonomy and dominion status. Then India will be an equal with Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Canada. The same phrases that were used in the Balfour Decalration of 1926 are used now also. This is promised to us after the cessation of hostilities. A Constituent Assembly will frame the constitution of India. The members for the - Assembly will be elected by the people of India. But for the present we have to help them in the war. For the present they have said that defence will not be given to us. But

But the Congress is demanding defence also to be given to them. At the present moment we cannot say whether the mission of Sir Stafford Cripps will be successful or not. Within a few days, we will know everything. Meanwhile we must see the reaction of other parties to the Cripps proposals. Mr. Jinna Saheb has said that he will not accept any proposal which does not include Pakistan. He says that Bengal, Sind, The Punjab and the North Western Frontier Province must have a separate existence apart from India. At the same time, the Hindu Maha Sabha and the Sikhs are saying that India should not be divided and they will resist her vivisection at any cost. Sir T.B.Sapru and Sir M.R.Jayakar also do not want the vivisection of India. The mission of Sir Stafford Cripps will become fruitful if defence is given over to the Congress, since the Congress is fighting for thr independence of India. With a view to unite India, the "National Week" is observed every year. And consequently to achieve independence this week is - observed. All of you must unite and work for the independence of India. I think the "National Week" will be observed for 5 or 6 days more. All of you must make it successfulx. (Claps).

Mr.Subbarao Upadhyaya, Congress Worker, Mysore, next spoke thus.-

You have to know the significance of observing this "National Week". Every year we are observing it. The - "National Week" is observed to unite India, and to achieve independence. At present our attention is diverted towards another matter. The war is nearing us. There is probability of India being attacked. Great leaders like Mahatmaji, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Azad and others are discussing the question of civil defence measures. Our leaders will not leave us away. They will do their best to us. They want complete control over the defence to protect us and to drive out the enemies. They have placed this before Sir Staffor Cripps. You know everything re-

regarding the discussions of Cripps proposals, since everything is published in newspapers. Most probably to-morrow the Working Committee resolution may be published. Our leaders are aksing that the defence must be given to us. But for the present they are not prepared to part with the same. For the present all the 40 crores of people are anxious to know the final decision regarding the discussions. But this much can be said that we will follow the Congress implicitly. At this juncture, I must tell you another thing. If there is any upheaval, many rowdies and goondas will become alert, and they will make use of the situation. It is the duty of the youth to protect the women and children and also property. In this way also we can protect our people and property. But if we become cowards, internal enemies will increase and much harm will come to us. Even Mahatmaji says the same. Hence it is my request to the youth to protect the country in the case of any upheaval. (Claps).

Mr. M.N.Jois, Congress Worker, Mysore, next spoke thus.-

My predecessors have told you the significance of the "National week ". They have also told you the necessity for observing the same. There is no necessity for me to tell you the same. I will tell you only a word regarding it. This is observed with a view to show our love and respect to the people who have sacrificed their lives for the unity and independence of India. Many people have sacrificed their lives. We have to remember them and show our respect to them. Hence we are observing the "National Week". In this connection I want to give you an example. Just as some have Venkataramanaswamy or Narasimhaswamy as their family deities, so also some people chose some walk of life and sacrificed their lives for the good of the country. Again many of you observe "Sravana Saturdays" when you beg in the name of God and then give something in charities, in that connection. In the same way this "National Week" is selected to remember those who have sacrificed their lives for the good of the country. In 1919, so to say, a murder took

took place at Jallianwala Bagh. In Punjab, there were some difference of opinion between the people and the Government. Then the murder took place as a result of their differences at Jallianwala Bagh in which many innocent people were shot dead. To remember those people who sacrificed their lives at that time, the "National Week" is observed. Before that, there was no observation of "National Week". Again it is laid down that the constructive programme of the Congress must be taken up during this week. such as Harijan Uplift, Khadi propaganda, revival of rural industries &c. This constructive programme is before us since 55 years. The programme is of 13 items. Just as you have a family deity, so also every one of you who have some liking in any one of the items of the constructive programme, may take it up and work. With this idea in view, the "National Week" is observed. The people must work self-consciously and then it is sure that the goal will be reached. With these words, I close my speech. (Claps).

Mr. P.Seetharamiah, Advocate and Vice-President, City Municipality, Mysore, next spoke thus.-

My friend Mr.M.N.Jois has spoken to you regarding the Jallianwala Bagh and the beginning of observing "National Week". Mr. T.S.Rajagopala Iyengar has spoken regarding the political situation of India and the mission of Sir Stafford Cripps. Mr. Subbarao Upadhyaya has told you the duty of the youth at the time any upheaval. I need not tell you much, But yet I will speak a few words only. First of all I will point to you the difference between the observance of "National Week" ~~of~~ this year and of other years. This year a Great War has encircled the entire world and it has also neared India. No body can say what may happen to-morrow. In the sphere of politics, Sir Stafford Cripps is discussing with the leaders of India and the Rulers of the Native States. All the people of America, England and China are towards the Indian problem. When this is the case, the British Cabinet have sent Sir Stafford Cripps with their

their decision, with a view to conclude an agreement with the leaders of India. In this connection it is our duty to do our utmost to supply the necessary food-stuffs to the people. Again we must try to become self-sufficient. In this connection, I must request all of you to make up your mind to spin and manufacture Khadi. This is the most important ~~of the~~ item of the 13 items of the Constructive programme of Mahatmaji. Again proper arrangements have to be made regarding food-stuffs, drinking water &c. Above all the Hindu-Muslim unity must be attained. This was - absolutely necessary from the beginning. Especially now, it has assumed the prominent place. Every one must do his best in these matters. Already many people have evacuated many big cities of India. Many foreigners have come to our City. There may be much trouble to supply food-stuffs to all of them. The population of Mysore City is one lakh and fifty thousands. If any Air Raid has to occur we must make proper arrangements for their protection and help. When it is said that only 100 or 200 people can command any emergency it is unbelievable. Hence the public must heartily co-operate in this matter. In this connection the Municipal Congress Party has passed a resolution and the same has been sent to Government. It is also desirable to mobilise all the volunteer corps of the City to protect the people at any time including peaceful times. The Municipality has set apart Rs.10000/- for this purpose and has intimated the Government regarding the same. But yet we have not got the sanction of the Government. Before the end of the observance of the "National Week" we hope to get the sanction of the Government for the same. The Cripps proposals are being discussed at Delhi by the Indian leaders and as soon as an agreement is reached, we are ready to follow the same. If defence is given to us we will protect the lives and property by sacrificing our lives. (Claps). Our leaders viz., Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Head are discussing the proposals as the representatives of the Congress. There are 2 or 3

or 3 points upon which there is difference of opinion between the Congress and the British Cabinet's proposals brought by Sir Stafford Cripps. Firstly, the way in which the Constituent assembly is framed gives way to disagreement. Secondly the unification of India will not be achieved by allowing 2 or more Unions to exist at one and the same, viz., the union of the States and the union of the provinces which do not want to enter into the Indian Union. The last objection is regarding the defence. Even Rt. Hon. V.Sreenivasa Satri one of the liberals, has sternly criticised the policy of the British as laid down in the Cripps proposals to vivisect ~~xxxx~~ India into many divisions. He is against Pakistan. He has criticised because they have said that they cannot force the States or the non-acceding provinces to join the Federation. The American and Chinese Newspapers do not know the real matter. But they are only publishing that we are against the Cripps proposals. It is said by almost every person except Mr.Jinnah that India must not be divided. The Hindu Maha Sabha and the Sikhs have definitely said that they are against dividing India, as laid down in the Cripps proposals. Again the leaders are saying to give up the defence portfolio. They say that if defence is given, the layman can understnad and India belongs to him ~~xx~~ and hence he has do his best to drive away the enemy. Then he sacrifices his life for the protection of the independence of India. Hence it is absolutely necessary that we must have the control ~~xfxxx~~ over the defence of our country. This day we have begun the observance of the "National Week". I thank the Secretary for giving me a chance to speak to you. Within the end of the "National Week" most probably we will know the final decision of the Cripps proposals. We will know the ~~xxx~~ decision that is arrived at between the Congress leaders and Sir Staffor Cripps. But in the meanwhile, we must follow the constructive programme of the congress as appealed by Mr. M.N.Jois. Among the constructive programme, spinning

spinning comes foremost. Every one must learn to spin and spin for a few hours in a day. If this is done at least, half of our expenditure upon clothes will be decreased. If I had brought a charaka, I might have demostrated spinning. I might have spun while others were speaking to you. Please excuse me for not doing so. If I have a chance of meeting you again, I will demonstrate it to you. In this connection, I appeal to every one of you to buy a charaka and spin as much as possible. Then only you will know the significance of the "National Week". Lastly, I have to thank all of you for coming over here and listening to the speeches peacefully. Now this meeting will terminate.

Then the meeting terminated at 8-10 P.M. with cries of several Jais.

The speeches were not effective.

SD. M.V.Sreenivasachar,
Stenographer, District Police Office,
Mysore, Dated, 7-4-42.

* C O P Y *

A. Rangaswami Iyengar

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
MYSORE DISTRICT.

No.T.C.35/41-42
Enc: 0

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Mysore District,
Dated, Mysore, 7th April 1942.

M E M O.

Forwarded, with compliments, to the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Bangalore.

K Srinivas

Deputy Commissioner,
Mysore District.

DBR/-7-4.

IN THE COURT OF THE CITY MAGISTRATE, M Y S O R E.

Dated this 31st day of March 1942.

Present:- M.S. HIRANNAYYA, Esquire, M.A.,
City Magistrate, Mysore.

Criminal Case No. 441 of 1941-42.

Complainant.		Accused.
Government.	Vs.	Mr. S. Rangaramiah.

-- JUDGMENT.--

1. On 26th January 1942 "INDEPENDENCE DAY" is observed by Congress Circles in India and in that connection the All India Mysore District ~~Congress~~ Congress Committee advertised a public meeting to be held in the Subbarayanakere Maidan, Mysore City. Ex.P.1 is one of the hand bills distributed to notify the function to the public. The meeting was held at 6 P.M. and after the "Independence pledge" was taken by the audience the proceedings commenced under the Presidency of Mr. S. Rangaramiah who is accused in this. Mr. Rangaramiah mae a few brief opening remarks and finally after ~~m~~ other speakers had had their turn he made the concluding speech. The meeting was attended by two Police officials viz Mr. Srinivasachar, the Stenographer of the D.S.P.'s Office, and by Mr. M.S. Subbanna who was the Inspector then in charge of the 'B' Division, Mysore City (in the absence ~~of~~ at Bangalore of the permanent Inspector Mr.B.S.Sadasiva Rao (who is P.W.2 in this case). P.W.1 attended under the instructions of the D.S.P. and he took shorthand notes in English of the concluding speech of accused which was in Kanarese. Ex.P2 is the note book containing the shorthand notes. Inspector Subbanna (P.W.3) also took down notes of particular passages which caught his attention and the note book containing them is Ex.P4 while P4(a) is the relevant entry. P.W.1 showed his shorthand notes to the D.S.P. the same night and the latter's initials to it are exhibited as P2(a). Next day the shorthand report was converted into Longhand and the Longhand copy is Ex.P3 while the portion of it particularly relating to accused's speech is Ex.P3(a). In the meantime Inspector Subbanna had registered a case against accused Mr.Rangaramiah under section 38(1)(a) and

and (5) and 34(6) (a) (e) (g) and (k) of the Defence of India Rules framed under the Defence of India Act. On 27-1-42 P.W.2 Inspector Sadasiva Rao returned from Bangalore and resumed charge of the 'D' Division. He arrested accused Mr.Rangaraiah and on 28-1-42 he placed the charge sheet in this case.

2. The Prosecution rests its case altogether on longhand report of the speech delivered by accused Ex.P3 which is a verbatim translation copy of the shorthand notes Ex.P2 recorded by P.W.1 and partially on the notes taken down by P.W.3 Inspector Subbanna of particular passages in accused's speech which caught his attention. Ex.P3. covers nearly five half pages of typed matter and starts with some remarks about the indifference to India shown by Englishmen including their Premier, Mr.Churchill. "Churchill Saheb has gone to America to request their help and friendship. But as Mr.C.Rajagopalachari said he does not care for the request of the 40 crores of the people of India." The speaker then touches upon the imminent danger to India and the helplessness of the Englishmen under these conditions of danger. He attributes this result to the injustice perpetrated by the British in the past. "They have done great injustice and the same is eating them up. Now they are reaping the fruits of their injustice (చూసిన్ది కోసి వెళ్తారు)". The speaker then expatiates upon the very inadequate protection given by the Government of India compared to the vast sums they are taking away in the name of defence. Accused is reported to have said "It is our aim to establish Independence to India, since Britain and America are fighting for the establishment of democracy. It is saying that we will surely help them if we are given independence." Accused then reverts again to the injustice perpetrated by British rule in India. "They gave a huge present of 10 lakhs of pounds to General Dyer who killed about 2000 innocent people who were listening to speeches. This day they are reaping the fruits of their injustice. Seeing this inhuman act god has cursed the British. As a result of this they are losing island by island in the Phillippines. The speaker then refers to the slippery nature of the promises made by the British and demands that the people of this country should stand on their own legs. He then pours ridicule on the attempts of Government to organise A.R.P.work. He refers with emphasis to the danger from Air raids and asks that

that people should follow Mahatma Gandhi's path of Ahimsa and non-violence. For some strange reason the speaker then passes on to a Tirade against the Municipal President of Mysore and later urges that the Police and A.R.P. officials must visit every Mohalla and encourage the people. He has some advice to give to officers about their working not for the sake of money as they are doing now but for the sake of the people. He then refers to the situation in Malaya and pokes ridicule at the British withdrawal. So far as Mysore is concerned, says the accused "It is not the Union Jack or the Bayonet that protects the Maharaja but it is the people. It is the Bada Bore Gowda that should protect him." He again abuses the British for their indifference to India. "He (Churchill) does not care for our country at all. If there is God he will surely see the injustice and give his decision. Long ago, a high British Officer said that he does not like to see the naked fakir, when Mahatmaji wanted his interview. That sin is eating them up. Do they get victory? Since they have done injustice to us they will not win. They should not win. Till they give us independence surely they should not win." He hopes to have achieved independenc by next year and states "Let us help them if they give us indppend-ence. If not, we do not help them even if they ~~gixx us ix~~ were to hang themselves. As Mr.C.Rajagopalachari has said they must first of all give us independence, then we will help them.

3. As we have seen, Inspector Subbanna (P.W.3) has stated that he attended the meeting and noted down particular passages which happened to strike his attention. The note book recording these notes is Ex.P.4 in this case but the sentences ~~xxxxx~~ occurring in it do not call for any particular mention as most of them find their counterpart in Ex.P3. the longhand report.

4. Examined at the close of the evidence for the prosecution accused Mr.Rangaramiah made a long statement in which he admitted having made a concluding presidential speech at the meeting but denied that any words he may have used came under the purview of the Defence of India Rules. He states ~~that~~ "the longhand report produced by P.W.1, Ex.P.3(a) is not a correct representation of my

my speech. It is mutilated and incorrectly translated and many sentences and facts have been omitted.' He states that he merely explained the policy of the Indian National Congress, why the Congress Congress with reference to the utterances of national leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Mr.C.Rajagopalachari and Pundit Nehru and that he referred to the unsatisfactory situation in the Far East, and the volume of protest it has evoked both in Australia and in England. Accused's attention was in particular drawn to the passage marked Ex.P.3(a)(8) in Ex.P.3(a) which reads as follows "He (Churchill) does not care for our country at all. If that South will surely see the injustice and give his decision. Long ago, a high British Officer said that he does not like to see the Naked Fakir, when Mahatmaji wanted his interview. That sin is eating them up. Do they get victory? Since they have done injustice to us they will not win. They should not win." About this passage, accused said that some sentences which he had given out had been omitted. He states 'I said'until the British grant independence and freedom to India and take the full co-operation of the entire people they won't succeed with such half-and-half arrangements' This referred only to the present situation in the Far East. As regards Mr.P.3 I make use of some of the expressions mentioned there and not others but I do not want to pick out the sentences I have actually used.'"

5. Two charges were framed against accused: the first was under Rule 34 Cl.6(b) of the Defence of India Rules read with Rule 38(1)(e) and Rule 38(5) of the said Rule. The second was under Rule 34.Cl.(6)(h) read with Rule 38(1)(e) and Rule 38(5) of the above said Rules. Accused pleaded not guilty to both the charges and examined four witnesses for his defence. D.W.1 Mr.Narayanaswamy is the Secretary of the Mysore City Congress Committee and also of the District Committee of the Indian National Congress and it was under the auspices of the latter body. He heard the speech of Mr.Rangaramiah and states that it was not of a nature that would interfere in any way with the war effort.' Accused says D.W.1 wanted people to be bold and self-reliant and not to get into a panic. He referred to the very inadequate military arrangements in the Far East and pleaded for Indians standing firm on their own legs instead of relying upon foreign bayonets. He explained the policy of the Mysore

Mysore Congress towards the war effort, which was one of non-embarassment and even co-operation with the authorities wherever there was no conflict. Accused pleaded for new energetic measures to the defence of the civil population and for independence to India. D.W.2 Mr.Agaram Rangiah who is an old member of the Mysore Congress and who also listened to the speech has stated that accused's main theme that day was that India should get Independence. Since the allied powers were fighting for democracy, India also should be given a democratic form of Government. He referred to the urgent need for civil defence measures and for Government taking the public into their confidence. D.W.2 states that Ex.P.3(a) cannot be considered a faithfully representation of the speech delivered by accused Mr.Rangaramiah. D.W.3 Mr.K.Hanumanthiah is a Congress worker and states that the attitude of Congress towards the war is one of neutrality. The Congress does not form part of the A.R.P.organisation but does not obstruct it. D.W.4 Mr.K.Pattabhi Raman is the General Secretary of the Mysore Congress and has produced copies (and later supplied the originals) of a resolution passed by the All-Mysore Congress Committee, of the Mysore Congress and of the Congress Working Committee. These are Ex.D.10 and D.11. He states that the policy of Congress is one of non-embarassment and that they had therefore resolved to keep in abeyance the demand for responsible Government in Mysore.

6. That he made a concluding speech from the chair at the celebration of Independence Day on 26-1-42 is, as we can see, not denied by the accused. It is however contended by his learned counsel that Ex.P3(a) the long hand translation of the shorthand notes recorded by P.W.1 Stenographer Srinivasachar is by no means faithful translation of the speech made by accused. The speech was made in Kanarese and P.W.1 had no doubt to translate the language into English mentally and then record it in shorthand. It is argued that this procedure is so involved that an ordinary person would be unable to follow the speech of a fluent and colloquial speaker as accused is stated to be. This contention cannot be accepted. P.W.1 is a trained and experienced stenographer,

attached to the office of the District Superintendent of Police, Mysore. He is a Graduate and has passed the Mysore Government Senior Examination in Shorthand and Typewriting. He has also stated that he has taken down shorthand notes of public speeches several times before. There cannot be any doubt, therefore, that P.W.1 was fully qualified to undertake the job given to him by the D.S.P., viz., to take shorthand notes of the speeches made on the occasion. One point which greatly enhances the value of P.W.1's evidence must be noted. It is that he himself has put forward no greater pretensions to accuracy for his record than what any reasonable man would credit it with. He has admitted that he has been unable to take down every word uttered by Mr.Rangaramiah and recorded only so much as he was able to catch consistent with his preoccupation in making the record. There is bound to be a certain lag between speaker racing on from point to point and the Stenographer who is ~~making~~ recording it in English shorthand. It must be remembered however that in judging whether the speech made by accused comes within the purview of the Defence of India Rules we are concerned not so much with the very words used by the speaker as with the gist of substance of his speech and the intention revealed by it. There is ample authority for this proposition which is not seriously contended by even the learned counsel for the defence. The latter has even pleaded that in arriving at a conclusion about the nature of accused's utterances the speech should be taken as a whole and that he should not be judged by isolated words and sentences. This is a very reasonable proposition and it is from that point of view that the speech of accused must be judged. It is therefore unnecessary to prove the very words used by Mr.Rangaramiah. The only question is whether Ex.P.3(a) is a fair representation of the speech made by him. I have no hesitation in answering the question in the affirmative. The learned counsel for the defence has made much of the fact that Ex.P3 (a) does not correctly bring out the sequence of ideas and that therefore it is quite likely that material portions and connecting links may have been omitted. A perusal of the speech as a whole does not support this view. There are no doubt a few eruptic sentences which indicate that they have been picked up by P.W.1 in isolation from the context and sometimes an idea appears to have been taken ~~xxxx~~ out of its context. Such minor defects are however only to be expected that P.W.1 had to take down in English shorthand a speech made in Kanarese but by no means makes the whole record inacceptable.

As a matter of fact if we keep in view the handicaps under which P.W.1 was labouring Ex.P3(a) makes remarkably consistent and understandable reading and we do get more than a glimpse of the kind of speech Mr.Rangaramiah made on the occasion.

7. P.W.3 Inspector has produced some notes of sentences spoken by accused which he recorded at the time of their utterance and which are Ex.P4. in this case. Their evidentiary value is greatly detracted from the fact that these notes were not sent to Court with the F.I.R. and that no mention of them has been made in any official record. We do not propose to depend to any extent on these notes; specially as the record made by P.W.1 is clear and ample enough for the purposes of this case.

8. Two charges have been framed against the accused. Both come under section 38(1)(a) and ~~xxx~~ are punishable under section 38(5) of the Defence of India Rules, promulgated under the Defence of India Act 1939 as applied to Mysore . Section 38(1) (a) simply states,

"No person shall, without lawful authority or excuse do any prejudicial Act."

The classes of acts which are considered "prejudicial" are detailed in Rule 34 clause 6 of the Defence of India Rules. It is under sub-clauses (e) and (k) under Rules 35 Cl.6 that accused has been charged. Sub-Clause (e) defines as a "prejudicial" act any act which is intended or is likely to bring into hatred or contempt or to excite disaffection towards His Majesty~~xx~~ or the Crown representative or the Government established by law in British India or in any other part of His Majesty's Dominions." The question before us is therefore whether accused's speech is of such a nature as to excite hatred or contempt or to excite disaffection towards the Government established by law in British India. As we have said before we must judge the effect of the speech as a whole keeping in mind the time at which and the audience to which it was addressed. It must not be forgotten that the moment was (as it continues to be in greater degree) one of great emergency when the ~~xxxxxx~~ need was to keep calm and collect all the nations' energies

towards the final object viz victory in the war. It was a moment pregnant with possibilities of commotion and upheaval and public men who made utterances which unsettled peoples minds further or inoculated them with hatred or contempt towards the Government established by law were taking a serious responsibility on themselves. It is a moment when calm and sober language ~~safe~~ animated by the one single purpose of keeping our country safely through the shoals ahead is of the most urgent importance. The audience moreover as the evidence on record consisted of younger folk who are very easily influenced ~~in~~ by intransigent suggestions and whose minds can be moulded in any direction by a clever and humourous speaker. There was ~~exxgrexx~~ therefore a great responsibility on the part of accused as of any other person in public life to weigh his words carefully and see that they do not transgress the bounds imposed by law. Throughout his speech however accused has spoken in such a way that any one who, heard his words and who was not possessed of a greater knowledge of history and politics than the members of his audience could be credited with, would be left with a disgust and contempt towards the whole system of Government now prevailing in India. He opens his speech with a description of the helpless condition of the British in this country and the facts that nobody cares anything for them. "If the English people had gone away about 2 or 3 years ago we would have given them a motor car. Now they have to make themselves ready to quit the country. There is none to enquire them whether they are leaving the country. There is no one to talk a word of courtesy." The speaker contrasts the anxiety of Mr.Churchill to secure American help with his indifference to India's needs and possibilities and asks "then it is like this do they retain the independence of India". This sentence as it stands does not make meaning and the learned counsel for the defence has laid much stress on this point. In answer to a question put to him in cross-examination P.W.1 has stated that by the sentence quoted above which is marked Ex.D2. he meant "[illegible]" Apparently P.W.1 intended a translation of the idea that if England did not feel fairly by India, domination of her would pass to other hands though it must be said that P.W.1 has tied himself up somewhat in the passage. The furtner course of accused's

accused's speech is however clear. He states that the English are under great difficulties and adds "They have done great injustice and the same is eating them up. Now they ~~xxxx~~ are reaping the fruits of their injustice " చూడు ఇప్పుడు ఇంగ్లండు అనుభవిస్తున్నది. The juxtaposition of the two ideas: one, namely, that ~~English~~ England is in great trouble along with her allies and the other, that this is due to the fact that they have dealt ~~xxx~~ in an unjust manner with India in the past is of significance. Any ordinary member of the audience who was not, as we have said, in a position to check up these statements by a greater knowledge of history and politics than the ordinary man possesses would not only have a contempt for the British administration which had allowed such a series of reverses to happen but also disgust and anger that so incompetent a ~~xx~~ regime had ~~xxx~~ inflicted such iniquities and ~~xxxx~~ injustices on India in the past. This argument is reinforced by accused's references to General Dyer who killed about 2000 innocent people who were listening to speeches and who was rewarded for this act ~~xxxxx~~ with a present of 10 lakhs of pounds. " Now it is by no means an offence to condemn General Dyer's action which a large number of people consider far from heroic or in consonance with the best British traditions. In this case unfortunately the coupling of Dyer's slaughter of a large number of Indians with the suggestion that the British Government applauded and rewarded him for it takes a significance which cannot be missed. Considered in connection with its context it would imply that the speaker intended to convey the idea that the Government was really responsible for these acts and he has made it clear in his statement that "seeing ~~xx~~ this inhuman act God cursed the British," and that it was as a result of this that they are losing island by island in the Phillippines which are 7000 in number." It is contended by the Defence that there is some mistake here since, as a matter of fact, the Phillippines do not belong to the British. It is quite likely however that accused was thinking in a loose way of the fact that ~~British~~ Britain and America were allies and that the loss of one was the loss of the other.

8. Accused then passes on to some reflections on the conduct of

of the British after the last war. He sets them out as an unreliable race whose words cannot be depended upon. "During the last war, they said they would give us something after the war; but after the war, they gave us the Rowlat Act in return for our help. According to that Act many great people like Motilal Nehru, Lalaji and others were sent to prison. How can we believe in their words . . . . . saying they are trustees they have grown a comfortable stomach." Accused has himself said in the course of his speech "In this audience there are many young boys and students." The effect of this tirade upon the independability of the British and their promises on such an audience can easily be imagined. They would only get a contempt for a Government which dishonestly holds out promises to the ear and breaks it to the heart. This topic of the British being utterly indifferent to India and quite disinclined to do anything for her is reverted to later on in the course of the speech when accused says "As Mr.C.Rajagopalachari has said, Mr.Churchill has no common sense; but only knows to smoke the cigar. He does not care for our country at all. If there is God he will surely see this injustice and give his decision. Long ago a High British Officer said that he does not like to see the naked Fakir, when Mahatmaji wanted his interview. That sin is eating them.

10. We have given enough excerpts from accused's speech to show the gist or tenor of what he was driving at. Does it come within the purview of Rule 34(6) Clause (e) of the Defence of India Rules. It will be noticed that this rule corresponds closely with the wordings of section 124(A) I.P.C. with one difference which I consider of significance. Section 124(A) I.P.C. refers to the bringing into or attempting to bring into hatred or contempt the Government by law established. But Rule 34(6)(e) refers to any act which is intended or is likely to bring into hatred etc. the Government established by law. It will be noticed that under this rule it is not necessary that there should be a definite intention to bring the Government into hatred or contempt. It is enough if there is a knowledge of the likelihood of such a result occurring. Under Section 124(A) I.P.C. intention is of the essence of the offence of Sedition. It will be seen therefore that the ~~xxxx~~ quantum of proof as regards the offence under Rule 34(6)(e) of the Defence of India Rule is in a measure different from that required under Section 124(A). It is enough for the purpose of the former that there was a

a likelihood of the words uttered having a certain adverse effect on the mind of the audience and an awareness of such likelihood. How does accused stand from this point of view? He muxx is an educated person and a public worker of some experience. He must certainly have been aware of the kind of attitude his words would induce the audience to take up not only towards the British connection but also towards the Government as at present established. A person may have a dream of the future but he cannot put it into words before an audience of 200 people including many boys and students without calculating the probable effects such words may have on their minds. In the present case each one of the ideas put forth by Mr.Rangaramiah may bear an innocent construction if taken out of the context and put in more moderate language. A student of Indian History may come to the conclusion that the story of the British connection with India is a series of broken pledges; A student of contemporary politics may consider Dyer's action at Amritsar a piece of the indefensible barbarity just as he may consider that the present attitude of the British Government of India is marked by an indifference which is shortsighted and imprudent. These sentiments by themselves and couched in a sober and temperate language could certainly not be taken exception and it would be a curtailment of the right to freedom of speech if they are brought under the law. In the present case however accused has brought all the indictments together in a kind of charge against the British and even the most ardent partisan of freedom of speech would characterize the language used as anything but inflammatory. It is something more than being out of taste and clownish in parts: It is calculated to rouse and excite the audience; to make them laugh in derision at the Government at one point and be infuriated with it at the next. Accused has prominently placed before the audience the failures and reverse of the British; not with a feeling of sorrow but almost of glee. He has scathingly referred several times to the great "Injustice" they have done and are still doing to India and has expressed the view that all these miseries are due to their previous "Karma" in this respect. The language used by him is unbridled and he must certainly be held responsible for the

the violent feelings they are likely to arouse. One cannot say things like "They have done great injustice and the same is eating them up. Now they are reaping the fruits of their injustice.

)" or "They gave a huge present of 10 lakhs of pounds to General Dyer who killed about 2000 innocent people who were listening to speeches. This day they are reaping the fruits of their injustice. Seeing this inhuman act God cursed the British" Or "As Mr.C.Rajagopalachari has said Mr.Churchill has no commonsense but only knows how to smoke the cigars. He does not care for our country at all. If there is God he will surely see this injustice and give us his decision." or "the British people do not want to give us anything. They take away everything from us." One cannot use expressions like these at a public meeting to all audience many of whose members were of an immature age and at a time of war when the country is faced with an unparalleled crisis in its affairs without exciting feelings of disgust, contempt and enmity towards the Government and the entire system of administration. There will be contempt for the Government which has shown itself so weak and powerless in the time of danger and which is even unable to defend the shores of India and hatred for the many injustices it has been held to have perpetrated and for the great injustice it is still continuing of not granting independence to India. Expression of disapprobation of the attitude or the measures of the Government is a legitimate right of the citizen but he is transgressing its bounds when the disapproval is couched in terms so violent as to incite feelings of hatred and contempt in the minds of the hearers. In the present case there cannot be any doubt that the speech of accused would create in the mind of the normal member of his audience feelings of hatred, contempt and disaffection towards Government.

11. We turn now to a consideration of the other rule under which accused has been charged, viz., Rule 34(6)(k) of the Defence of India Rules. This defines as a "Prejudicial Act" any Act which is likely to influence the conduct or attitude of the public in a manner likely to be prejudicial to the defence of British India or to the efficient prosecution of the war. The charge refers to the point that accused's speech is prejudicial to the efficient prosecution of

of the war. The circumstances prevailing at the time the speech was made and which to a redoubled degree exist even now must be kept in mind. The far east is in the throes of war and the enemy are practically at our gates. It is a moment when we have to range ourselves on the side of the powers that stand for democracy and human freedom and exert every nerve to insure victory. It is almost a moment when one can say "Those who are against us are against us." And yet what is accused's message to his audience at this critical juncture? It is that Britain has dealt very unjustly by India: that her defects are a fair retribution for these sins and that we cannot agree to fight for her ~~for them~~ or with her unless she agrees to free our hands. We entirely agree with the defence that even at this time every Indian is justified in expressing his desire for independence but a statement connecting this as a precondition for participation in the war effort amounts to a refusal to participate unless the conditions were satisfied. But this is exactly the view expressed by the accused and he has not hesitated to make his meaning clear by using the most severe expressions possible. In one place in his speech, after referring to the injustice perpetrated by the British in India he says "since they have done injustice to us, they will not win. They should not win. Till they give us independence, surely they should not win." This is an extraordinarily serious statement to make. It indicates that accused has no desire that the British should win unless on some condition which he has in his mind. He has clarified the matter further in a subsequent statement in which he says "Let us help them if they give us independence. If not we do not help them even if they were to hang themselves. As Mr.C.Rajagopalachar said, they must first of all give us independence, then we will help them." This puts accused's meaning beyond doubt. He does not want Indians to fight for the allied cause, unless and until the British grant India her independence. What, one asks, will be the natural reaction of an ordinary audience composed largely boys and students to views of this type told

told moreover with humour and nerve? The question can best be answered by some practical question like this: If somebody came to the assembly after the meeting with a request for subscription for war funds or for recruits or for any other part of the war effort programme how would the people react to such a request after listening to this speech? They would certainly be much less sympathetic than before and feel that India had been severely treated by the British and until her wrongs were righted they would have nothing to do with the war. It is this kind of influencing that is dealt with in Rule 34(6)(c) and the whole tenor of accused's speech gives the same indication. He pokes fun at the British retreat in Malaya and states that the British are taking away our men, money and materials, leaving us undefended and helpless. He says "But we are not helped though the enemy is entering India. All the protection is taken by them (It is to be presumed that this refers to the British). 32 lakhs of army is raised and they are fighting for them." Remarks like these will certainly prejudice the hearers specially if their minds are immature and young against any effective participation in the war effort. It is one thing to say "India demands her independence. She will be a more effective partner in the allied cause if it is granted to her." But it is an altogether different thing to say "Unless India is first grated her independence we will not lift our little finger to help in the War." But the latter impression is exactly what is left by reading Ex.P3(a). This tribunal is not concerned with political dreams and ideals which are personal to each man. We can only take account of the fact that we are living under a particular form of Government and that we in common with Great Britain are forced with a tremendous and fateful struggle wherein we can never expect final victory unless we pool all our resources and fight like one man. The attitude of indifference and even opposition to the war effort which would be the reaction of a common audience to speeches like accused's will undoubtedly not lead us to victory and will only end in disaster. There cannot be any doubt therefore that the speech made by accused was likely to influence the attitude of the public in a manner likely to be prejudicial to the efficient prosecution of war.

If the attitude were put into a practical form it would prevent not only the supply of men and money for war purposes, but (what is more important) would destroy the moral support of the nation which is really of incalculable value form the due prosecution of war.

12. An argument which was put forwarded with considerable emphasis by the learned counsel for the defence is that accused was only quoting extensively from the speeches of great national leaders who have not so far been dealt with in British India. We do not think this is any point at all. It is no argument that some great Indian National Leaders have said the same things as Mr.Rangaramiahin British India and got off with it, he can do so with impunity here. As a Court of Law we are concerned only with the particular speech made by accused on 26-1-42 and considerations about ~~xxx~~ what C.R. or Punditji or others may have said or done in altogether different place and different conditions are of no relevancy in these proceedings.

13. Four witnesses have been examined by the Defence whose depositions have already been briefly summarised. D.Ws.1 and 2 are ~~xxxxxxx~~ eye-witnesses who attended the meeting and speak to the fact that what accused said was perfectly innocent. They are however unable to remember the words used by accused and trusting as they do merely to accuracy their deposition is not of much value as against the shorthand record made by P.W.1 at the spot itself. After all a long speech has many facts and some might have impressed D.Ws.1 and 2 while others may have escaped their notice. As regards D.Ws.3 and 4 they are summoned to speak to the policy of the Mysore Congress which is one of non-embarassment to the war effort. One would have thought that if that body had been really anxious to keep to their resolution, speeches of the type before us would have been left unmade. In any case whatever the policy of the central body may be, it is clear that Mr.Rangaramiah has allowed himself a certain latitude and has made a speech which would certainly embarass the war effort, in Mysore City at any rate. Before the hard fact of Ex.P3(a) pious resolutions like

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like D.10 and D11. lose much of their significance and only indicate indiscipline within the ranks. On the whole, the evidence let in by the defence does not deter in any way the validity or significance of Ex.P6(a).

14. I, therefore, hold in conclusion that accused has committed a prejudicial act as defined in Rule 34(6)(e) and 34(6)(k) of the Defence of India Rules punishable under Rule 38(1)(a) read with Rule 38(5) of the Defence of India Rules and I convict him of the charges framed against him under these two sub-clauses under section 34 under section 258(2) Cr.P.C.

15. The question of punishment in cases of this type is a somewhat difficult one and depends upon many considerations. No moral turpitude is involved and accused's motives in making the speech may have been patriotic. Some allowance will also have to be made for the fact that he may have been carried away by his own sense of humour and the sound of his own voice. The audience was small and the speech does not appear to have been reported in the papers. The extent of damage done by the ~~xxxxxx~~ speech is therefore proportionately smaller. Keeping all these considerations in mind, I sentence accused for the offence under Rule 34(6)(e) read with Rule 38(1)(a) and Rule 38(5) of the Defence of India Rules to Rigorous Imprisonment for one month and a fine of Rs.200/- or in default further R.I. for two months and for the offence under Rule 34(6)(k) read with rule 38(1)(a) and Rule 38(5) of the said rules to R.I. for one month and a fine of Rs.200/- or in default of payment further R.I. for two months.

16. Pronounced in open Court.

Sd. M. S. HIRAMAYYA,
City Magistrate, Mysore.
31-3-42.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR ...
APR 15 1942
No. 10.1 25

"Copy"

A. Ranganathaswami Iyengar

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
MYSORE DISTRICT.

No.T.C. 24/41-42.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Mysore District,
Dated, Mysore, 12th April 1942.

MEMO.

Copy of the above is forwarded, with compliments, to the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Bangalore, in continuation of this Office Memo of even Number dated 31-3-1942.

R. [illegible]
Deputy Commissioner,
Mysore District.

Seller for perusal
19/4
17/4
19/4/42

MR. P. SURYANARAYANA SETTI, B.A., LL.B.,
Deputy-Commissioner.

TUMKUR,
9-4-1942

C.C.DEPUTY'S OFFICE
No. 76/41-42.
13. APR. 1942
NO. 8848

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
APR 11 1942
No. 10598

Dear Sir,

I forward for your kind information a copy of the proceedings of the Congress meeting held in connection with the All India National Week Celebrations on 8-4-1942 in the premises of the Town Cooperative Society, Tumkur under the Presidentship of Mr. M.V. Rama Rao, President of the Town Municipality, Tumkur.

Yours sincerely,

P. Suryanarayana Setti

To

Gulam Mohiyuddin Mehkri, Esq.,B.A.,

Chief Secretary to the Government

of Mysore, BANGALORE.

Sathu for perusal
Law Minister
Malavalli Veeraiah's speech is a jumble of pro-war activity
South Ind. Prop. Assn.
(Diwan)

PROCEEDINGS of the Congress Meeting held to observe the All-India National Week Celebrations 'ಅಖಿಲಭಾರತ ದಿನಾಚರಣೆ' at 7 P.M. on 8-4-1942 in the premises of the Town Co-operative Society, Ltd., Tumkur, Mr. M.V. Rama Rao(President, Town Municipality, Tumkur) presiding.

Mr. M.V. Rama Rao, the President, called upon Mr. Malavalli Veerappa to address the gathering.

Mr. Malavalli Veerappa delivered the speech to the following effect : - "Many of you might have acquainted with me during the proceedings in the Courts/when I was tried in this place for sedition in two cases, resulting in the awarding of 4½ years imprisonment in total. I am grateful to the Almighty for the opportunity given to me on this occasion to meet you once again in Tumkur. Whatever be the difficulties that face the Congressmen, the ultimate goal must be reached. To bring about a change in the system of administration in Mysore, Congress has carried its struggle since five years and thus has earned the confidence of the people. Seventy-three lakhs of Mysoreans are looking forward keenly the struggle in Mysore for the establishment of Responsible Government by the Mysore Congress. So long as there exists the co-operation of the people, the Mysore Congress is determined to serve the people. The Congress has no selfish motives but desires to serve the people to its utmost. It is for this purpose that the Congress stopped Satyagraha and involved itself actively in Parliamentary activities. Though the elections were far successful, yet the Congress has not secured majority. Nevertheless, the Congress members are not viewed with indifference in the local bodies as they carry weight in the eyes of the Government. Many were the attempts to crush the Congress. More it was crushed the more was its growth and development, the reason being that the Government began to realise gradually that the people were solidly behind the Congress. Because of the treaties and agreements executed by the Native States many years back, with the British Power, the Native Princes are not free to concede the wishes of the Congress.

It is deplorable that the Native States which occupy one-third space of India and has quarter the population of India, entirely are/subordinate to the British paramountcy.

No more the vivisection of India which is being continually attempted by the British power, could be tolerated. The people of India were, before the British power came into existence, under only one rule. The Britishers came to India for trade and vivisected India and thus became the entire masters in India, by sowing successfully the seed of disunion in a very clever manner. Thus the Indian leaders set about to unite India through the Indian National Congress. For this purpose the observance of 'ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಐಕ್ಯತೆ' was found necessary throughout the length and breadth of India. For this observance the British Government are mainly responsible, as you call upon your memory the unhappy incidents of Jallian-wala Bagh where innocent people were shot at by our own Military men, during the course of a peaceful meeting. Mahatma Gandhi has bitterly wept over the incident and thereafter stressed the importance of Unity in India in order to establish the independence of India. It is the British Government who first brought about differences among the many communities in India, and it is strange that the same British Government are now trying through Sir Stafford Cripps to bring about unity among the different communities in India. Naturally the effort of Sir Stafford Cripps have proved to be fruitless. The eminent man, Sir Stafford Cripps, who was responsible for stirring Russian to wage war against Germany, has now failed in his mission in India to unite the different communities in India. The demands of Messrs. Savarkar and Jinnah are widely varied; on the other hand, the Princes approach the British Government for the protection of sovereignty, in spite of the advice of the Viceroy recently to the Princes that they should first seek the co-operation of their subjects. The State Princes, it is sad to think, cringe before Cripps for the protection of their sovereignty, casting away the right course of approaching their own subjects for co-operation. When the British Government itself is in

in peril, how can it protect the Native Princes? Rather, it would be wise for the Princes to win the confidence of their own people.

You are all aware of the recent Satyagraha campaign carried on throughout India at the instance of Mahatma Gandhi who is ceaselessly carrying on the freedom movement in India since 20 years. Though independence has not yet been conceded to India, the British power knows that the power of Congress is gowing day by day. In order to seek the help of Congress, the British power has chosen to send one of the members of the War Cabinet, Sir Stafford Cripps, to India. The times are swiftly changing since the outbreak of the present war. As you all know Jawaharlal Nehru was sentenced to 4½ years of imprisonment. Agitation went on in the British Parliament to release/immediately, as the public opinion would be hostile in India. Mr. Amery, the Secretary of State for India, then replied that it is for Mr. Nehru to defend himself and go on appeal, if his release was to be effected. Such was the indifference of the British Government then. Things have since changed. The same British Government have now sent Sir Stafford Cripps to India to approach the same Nehru seeking for the protection of the British Government. It is thus evident that the British Government have cast away their indifference over the affairs in India. Cripps's Mission has now failed. Sir Stafford Cripps should have cabled home that the grant of independence to India was necessary in order that India may willingly enter the war actively. For want of farsightedness, Cripps's mission has failed inspite of his tiresome efforts.

If only the British Government had taken a long view to encourage the industries in India, Japan would not have chosen to attack India. The Britishers viewed it with suspicion and now they repent for want of a far-sighted policy. Hence the crisis in India, amidst an unfair war waging all over the world now.

War has now entered the very doors of India. Vizagapatam and Cocanada have been bombed. Certainly this is not a time to take things indifferently. We must all stir ourselves to action to face the situation boldly in order to protect India. Though we are armless, we shall defend India by will-power and by continuing the non-violent policy advocated by Gandhiji. All the Indian leaders have been deeply disappointed with the attitude of the British Government towards India inspite of Marshal Chiang-Ke-Shak's clear message to the British Government to free India and China and earn their confidence and co-operation, whereby the British Government is certain to be saved from the present crisis. Even the mission of Col. Johnson has unfortunately failed with Pandit Nehru. Now therefore the time has come to protect ourselves from the onslaughts of the enemy. China is resisting the aggression of Japan since four years, as every Chinese subject has got the love of the country in his heart. Similarly, if India is declared free by Britain, Japan will not dare to attack India, or any other nation, would be powerful enough to attack India. Slighting the power of Japan, Britain has now come to trouble. Viewing everything in India with suspicion, Britain came to more trouble. The assurances given by the British Power to the nations of Europe were unfulfilled, and they all became serfs of Germany. Such assurances are of no use in India. India must unequivocally be declared free, when only India will fight to its maximum and will be able successfully to resist the Japanese or any aggression. Inspite of imminent crisis in India, the British Power has not changed its mind. If Indians ~~died~~ die during this war, they will have to console themselves as the Editor of 'Amrit Bazaar Patrika" did at his death-bed, that he would be happy to go to the world which is certainly not in bondage, after his death, rather than live in India which is not free. It is certain, however, that there will be a new world order after the present war, when India will certainly be free. Then we would observe the National Week with freedom. Those

days are approaching very near. Indeed we are fortunate to live in such expectant days.

Now let us turn to our duty during the critical period of this war. It will fall to our lot to ward from acts of goondaism, shortage of food and the protection of women and children, if the war were to be more severe in India. No amount of money would be the saving factor for the people. All the gold of France was not able to ward off danger from the war. Unity among the people is the thing required essentially now.

I would invite you to imagine just for a moment the loss of Bluff to Mysore. For want of electric power, 1½ lakhs of labourers in K.G.F. would be immediately employed. The supply of water to Cities would immediately cease for want of electric power. For want of transhipment, food becomes scarce, and thus goondaism becomes prevalent. Measures have to be found to put down all these consequences of this critical period. I therefore exhort you all to shed your ~~apathetic~~ indifference and to stir yourself to constructive action, in order to save the life and property in the country. Follow the advice of Congress given to you from time to time.

The A.R.P. system brought into being by the Mysore Government is bound to fail in the time of crisis, as it is not backed by the confidence of the people in the system. The people will therefore be indifferent in the times of crisis and thus the A.R.P. system will not work efficiently. The Congress has earned the confidence of the people, and it is therefore right that the Government should approach the Congress for its co-operation. For this purpose the present Ministry must resign, as it has no confidence of the people, and it must be replaced by a popular ministry, when only will it be possible for the people to work wholeheartedly in the interest of the country.

In this connection it is regrettable to mention that the Mysore Government disapproved the action of the Congress when they appointed Mr. Thimma Reddy to form Local Defence Committees, as the Government thought that such a formation of defence committees would/tend to obstruct the work of the A.R.P. system

in Mysore. The A.R.P. Controller, Mr. Madhava Rao is reported to have requested Mr. Bhasyam to go on with his propaganda for the formation of volunteers for defence services whereby more volunteers could be enlisted for A.R.P. work. This sounds strange. It is not necessary for the Government to depend upon the Congress to carry on propaganda for A.R.P. volunteers, if they view with suspicion the appointment of Mr. Thimma Reddy by the Mysore Congress as the Defence Commissioner in Mysore. Without the backing of the Congress A.R.P. volunteer-service would not be successful in Mysore.

As you all know, the negotiation between the President of Mysore Congress, Mr. Siddiah, and the Dewan, failed as the Dewan did not approve of the formation of an elected ministry proposed by the Congress President. Nevertheless Congress will choose always to go in a peaceful way. It is surprising that, inspite of Congress successes during the recent elections, the Government have not chosen to befriend the Congress and are entertaining suspicion and distrust. The same suspicion and distrust entertained by the British Government brought about the failure of Cripps's mission. Remember my words when I say that the whole British Cabinet will come down to India for the defence of Britain. I am certain India will be able to defend herself and Britain too. I pray God to grant wisdom to the British War Cabinet to arrive at right decisions in this critical period."

Next Mr. B.C. Nanjundiah addressed a few words to the following effect: "My object is to draw the attention of the Government to the order recently passed by the Government in respect of food commodities exceeding a certain limit. The subordinate staff of the Government seem to be under a misunderstanding of the implication of the recent Government Order and are bringing into the minds of the villagers wrong interpretation of the Government Order. There are instances where people in the villages are under the impression that it is a vidation of the Govt. order to store in excess of 10 pallas of paddy and ragi. Some villagers would seem to be under

under the mistaken impression that all paddy and ragi in excess of 10 pallas would be confiscated by the Government and Defence Bonds issued instead. This is evident from the quick sale at low price of paddy and ragi in Mandies, detrimental to the interests of the villagers. I believe the Government Order in this matter is not rightly understood in its spirit. The authorities are also responsible for this misunderstanding. I hope they will soon clear the misapprehensions in the matter by a suitable and timely announcement in clear terms of the implications of the recent Government order, in the matter.

At the time of scare, people should forget communal differences and enter, one and all, to protect their life and property and of others too by carrying out the remedial measures suited to the occasion. Let there be mutual confidence and unity. Responsibility hangs heavily during such crisis on the rich people, who must learn to be more accommodating to the necessities of the situation.

The recent Government Order in respect of stock of excess of ten pallas of paddy and ragi, may have been passed in order to arrive at a certain statistics of food commodities available in the country or such other object. The people need therefore not be under a scare that stock of food in excess of ten pallas will be confiscated by the Government. Let us do all to prevent acts of looting and goondaism, and engage ourselves in allaying the scare if it were to come into existence. I wish the Government to make it known by an announcement detailing the clear meaning of the recent Government Order in respect of food commodities in excess of ten pallas."

Mr. Rama Rao next addressed briefly as follows - "I thank Mr. Malavalli Veerappa for having kindly responded to our invitation to open the National Week in Tumkur.

The object of the enemies might be to create scare and panic among the masses in order to gain control of India. It is therefore necessary for us not to be disturbed by such a panic, as a result of air raids. It will be our duty, during

(continued

the period of air raids, to prevent acts of goondaism and to allay the scare as far as possible, and help the distressed people. If, on the other hand, we are to run away from our places at the slightest excitement, I ask you, whether we are fit to possess an independent India. Let us be free from indifference and irresponsibility. Let us protect the honour of the womanhood during such crisis and do our duty. I believe you will all support me in the above views expressed by me."

With cries of Bolo-Bharata-Mata-ki-Jai and 'Vande Mataram' the meeting terminated at 8-40 P.M.

The audience would seem to be receptive and enthusiastic throughout the meeting.

The Sub Inspector, Special Branch and the Police Inspector, Tumkur Taluk, attended the meeting and took down the proceedings of the meeting.

The gathering consisting mainly of local merchants, townsmen and students, was about 250 strong.

Sd. Y. Krishnamurti Rao,
Stenographer,
District Police Office,
TUMKUR.

Tumkur,
April 9, 1942.

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Superintendent of Police,
TUMKUR DISTRICT.

3795
B.

SECRET.

S.B.206/41-42.

SPECIAL REPORT.

(In continuation of this office S.B.206/41-42 dated 27-4-42).

SUBMITTED to the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District, Mysore.

It is reported that the adjourned meeting of the local Congress Workers was held in the Congress Office, Sayaji Rao Road, Mysore, at 6 P.M. on 29-4-1942 with Mr.S.Channiah as President.

Messrs.B.Narayanaswami, T.Mariappa, Palahalli Seetharamiah, B.Subbaraya Upadhyaya, A.N.Suryanarayana Rao, M.N.Jois, Tagadur Ramachandra Rao, T.Narasimha Iyengar, K.Seshadri, Agaram Rangiah, T.Venkataramaniah, Chowdiah, A.Krishnamurthy, M.R.Channabasappa, G.Janardhana Naidu, E.P.Nanjappa, A.Suryanarayana Pandit. A. Ramanna, A.Shivanna, M.Rama Rao, Rangapapiah and Mr.Shankariah attended the meeting.

It is learnt that at the meeting Messrs.P.Seetharamiah, M.N.Jois, B.Subbaraya Upadhyaya and A.N.Suryanarayana Rao discussed in detail the various measures to be taken up by the Congress with regard to Civil Defence.

It was finally decided to form a Civil Defence Committee consisting of 15 members with powers to co-opt, to go into the matter with a view to prepare a scheme for the protection of life and property during any emergency.

The undermentioned are the members of the Committee:-

1. Mr.P.Seetharamiah
2. " S.Channiah
3. " B.Subbarayaxx Upadhyaya
4. " Chowdiah
5. " T.S.Subbanna
6. " S.S.Sharma
7. " T.Venkataramaniah
8. " T.Mariappa
9. " T.Narasimha Iyengar
10. " M.R.Channabasappa
11. " M.N.Jois
12. " A.N.Suryanarayana Rao
13. " V.N.Dasappa
14. " M.Rama Rao
15. " Patnam Srinivasa Setty.

Of these, Messrs.P.Seetharamiah, B.Subbaraya Upadhyaya

The undersigned are members of the Committee

1. [illegible]
2. [illegible]
3. [illegible]
4. [illegible]
5. [illegible]
6. [illegible]
7. [illegible]
8. [illegible]
9. [illegible]
10. [illegible]
11. [illegible]
12. [illegible]
13. [illegible]
14. [illegible]
15. [illegible]

of these presents, [illegible]

and Chowdiah were elected as President, Secretary and Treasurer respectively of the Committee.

The members of the Committee also decided that they should not do anything ~~wix~~ which would affect the measures of the Government in the matter of Civil Defence and do things according to the Congress Creed, ideals and resolutions.

The Congress Civil Defence Committee will meet in the local Congress Office on 1st May 1942 to chalk out further programme of work.

Sd. M.G.Heblikar,

MYSORE,
30-4-42

I/C.DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
MYSORE DISTRICT.

"Copy"

I/C.DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
MYSORE DISTRICT.

No.T.C.36/41-42

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Mysore District,
Dated, Mysore, 30th April 1942.

M E M O.

Copy of the above is forwarded, with compliments, to the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Bangalore, in continuation of this Office Memo of even Number dated the 27th instant, for favour of information.

Deputy Commissioner,
Mysore District.

DBR/30-4.